

The Board Report

November 6, 2017



Disclaimer: *The Board Report is a synopsis of the Hampton Township School Board meetings and is not intended as a replacement for any official Board minutes.*

~ A Tradition of Excellence ~

The Hampton Township Board of School Directors

Bryant Wesley II, Esq.*	Board President
Mrs. Mary Alice Hennessey	Board Vice President/Student Affairs Chair
Mr. Robert Shages	Board Treasurer/Policy & Legislative Affairs Chair
Ms. Denise Balason	Board Secretary/Facilities Chair
Mrs. Pamela Lamagna*	Personnel Chair
Mrs. Gail Litwiler	Educational Programs Chair
Mr. Lawrence Vasko	Finance Chair
Mr. Greg Stein	Technology Chair
Mrs. Cathy Lueers	Transportation Chair

** Denotes members participating via teleconference call/video.

*Denotes members not in attendance.

Members of Administration in Attendance

Dr. Michael Loughhead	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rebecca Cunningham	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Jeff Kline	Director of Administrative Services
Dr. Ed McKaveney	Technology Director
Ms. Shari Berg	Public Relations Consultant

Public Comment

The Board provides the opportunity for members of the public to address the Board about issues appearing on the agenda, as well as issues affecting the District. In accordance with Policy No. 903, individuals wishing to address the Board will be asked to state their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

- There was no public comment this evening.

Student Affairs Report

Action Items for Consideration

Field Trip Requests

The Latin Club is requesting permission to attend the two-day Pennsylvania Junior Classical League State Competition from May 25 to May 27, 2018. Mrs. Hennessey said this is an annual event, and students will miss one day of school to attend.

District's Academic Competition Fund

The Latin Club is requesting financial assistance for the trip to the Pennsylvania Junior Classical League State Competition in May 2018. Students are covering \$300 of the cost for the trip and the club is asking the District for \$800 to cover the costs of transportation and for chaperones.

Student Representative's Report

Anna Shumaker (Student Council Vice President) and Abigail Wolf (Senior Class Secretary) attended and provided the Board with an update in the following areas.

- A survey about After Prom went out to juniors and seniors in order to collect student input. The results of the survey will help shape the After Prom in the spring.
- On December 8 the senior class Student Council members and officers will be going to Children's Hospital for "Fun Fridays." The students will be dressing up in costumes to spread some joy to the kids.
- MiniTHON planning has begun and the students are exploring the idea of bringing in food trucks. The date for this year's MiniTHON is April 6, 2018.
- Deck the Halls will begin soon. In this annual event, freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors decorate different hallways in the high school according to their winter theme.

Informational

Board members were provided with a list of Affiliated Organizations. The list also is available on the District website here.

Educational Programs Report

Action Items for Consideration

There were no actions items for consideration at this time.

Student Achievement Presentation

Dr. Cunningham provided a comprehensive student achievement report for the 2016-2017 School Year. She noted the District is doing very well overall. Some highlights from the report are included here:

- PSSA scores in language arts for grades 3-8 - she noted Hampton's students overall are performing 20 to 25 percentage points above the state average.
- PSSA scores math for grades 3-8 - Hampton's students are outperforming the state average and showing a lot of growth in comparison with the District's own scores from previous years. She noted that most of the students in 8th grade are advanced in math and are actually taking the Keystones for Algebra this year as well as the 8th grade PSSA. Mr. Shages inquired about the steady progression downward for state averages, and Dr. Cunningham said the test itself is getting progressively more difficult with the increasing complexity of the state standards. Mrs. Hennessey asked if Administration could provide a review of whether the Math in Focus program Hampton implemented four years ago is working as intended.
- PSSA Science scores for grades 4 and 8 - the overall average in 4th and 8th grade PSSA scores for the state dropped from 2016 to 2017, as did Hampton's scores. Dr. Cunningham said it is something administration and teachers are diving into and investigating to see how we can continue to improve. Mr. Stein inquired if the test was different this year, and Dr. Cunningham said that yes, the tests were different this year. Dr. Loughhead said the tests are based on standards from eight years ago, and the science assessments do not align with current NGSS standards the way the language arts and math tests do. He said he is hoping the state will walk away from the old science assessment and replace it with one that reflects current standards, or allow school districts to administer an alternate test.
- Keystone Cohort scores in literature, biology, and Algebra I - Hampton's scores are indicative of our students performing extremely well on the tests. The majority of students are scoring at the advanced or proficient levels. Dr. Cunningham noted that although the state average went down in all three testing categories from 2016 to 2017, the percentage of students scoring at the advanced or proficient levels at Hampton went up (Literature from 92.9% to 95.7%; Biology from 83.9% to 87.2%; and Algebra I from 86.2% to 88.6%). The 2017 state average for students scoring at the advanced or proficient level are Literature - 72.7%, Biology - 63.4%, and Algebra I - 65.6%.
- Hampton was ranked #3 among regional districts in Spring 2017 by the Pittsburgh Business Times.
- Dr. Cunningham reviewed non-weighted scores for Hampton in comparison with other local school districts with District-wide grade level averages for the PSSA tests for ELA, math and science. Hampton's scores were similar to school districts like Fox Chapel Area, Pine Richland, South Fayette and North Allegheny.
- PVAAS scores (student growth scores) indicate that the District is typically maintaining or exceeding the growth standard in the elementary buildings in the ELA, Math and Science PSSA tests. At the middle school, students are typically maintaining the growth standard on the ELA and Science PSSAs, and are exceeding the growth standard on the Algebra I Keystone Exams. For all Keystone exams, the District is typically maintaining or exceeding the growth standard across all tested areas.
- Dr. Loughhead said an area of concern for the District is 8th grade, where students may be taking Algebra I Keystones, math PSSAs, ELA PSSAs, and Science PSSAs. He said he would like to see districts be permitted to allow students who qualify for the Keystone Algebra I exam to be exempt from the PSSA math testing.
- School Performance Profiles (SPP) numbers were provided for each of the five buildings. Dr. Cunningham noted that the SPP scores will be going away after this year as the state has recognized that the mathematical calculations that they have been using is flawed and not a good way to indicate how well the districts are measured overall. The state has come up with an alternative to replace the SPPs, and so the districts are collectively not giving as much attention to the SPPs as they have in previous years.

- National Occupational Competency Testing Institute Scores (NOCTI) - Last year, 80% of Hampton students taking this test were rated as competent/advanced. This test is administered to students at A.W. Beattie Career Center. Dr. Cunningham said the NOCTI tests are very difficult and the Beattie students are doing extremely well with their exams.
- Redesigned SATs - The Pennsylvania state average for students taking the SAT went down from 2016 to 2017 (552 to 540 in Reading/Writing and 547 to 533 in Mathematics); however, the average scores for Hampton students increased (603 to 609 in Reading/Writing and 591 to 597 in Mathematics).
- National Merit Awardees - Data over the past few years indicates that the Hampton students are holding steady with the number of students qualifying as National Merit Awardees. Currently we have seven commended students, two semi-finalists, and we are waiting to see if these two students move on to be finalists.
- ACT Scores - Hampton's scores are above the state and national averages. Our high school students averaged 26.1 in English, 26.1 in Mathematics, 27.3 in Reading, and 25.5 in Science. National averages include 20.3 in English, 20.7 in Mathematics, 21.4 in Reading, and 21.0 in Science.
- AP Tests - Dr. Cunningham provided a chart of the most recent AP exam results and the number of students who scored a 3, 4, or 5 on the exams. She noted that not all of students enrolled in an AP course would necessarily take the AP exam at the end of the course, but that this decision is weighed carefully depending on the student's individual college plans. She noted that across the board, students are doing well in their exams and highlighted that 100% of the students taking the AP Calc BC exam and 100% of the students taking the English Language AP exam scored a 3, 4, or 5 on these tests, as an example of both English and math proficiency.
- Future Plans - Last year, 93% of students indicated that they were moving to a two-or four-year college or university after graduation, and 7% of students selected to go into employment, the military, or were undecided.

Dr. Cunningham said while the District is doing well overall, administration and the teachers will continue to align ELA and math units to the standards, implement standards-based performance tasks, continue to develop and implement formative assessments to ascertain student progress to inform instruction, and continue to provide meaningful professional development in standards, curriculum, and instruction.

Informational

Dr. Loughead said Dr. Peter Franzen can come to present to the Board at its January Work Session as a follow-up to Dr. Loughead's presentation on exploring later start times which was shared at the October work session. The Board discussed the amount of items which were anticipated to be on the January agenda and considered whether it would be better for Dr. Franzen to come on a different night in order to have ample time for questions and answers. Dr. Loughead said he would get in touch with Dr. Franzen to ascertain his availability and report back to the Board.

Personnel Report

Resignations:

1. Accept the resignation of Mrs. DeAnna Richey, who is resigning effective October 25, 2017. (Mrs. Richey was a Long-Term Substitute ESL Teacher for the District.)

Teachers:

2. Approve Mrs. Jamie Pugliese as an Induction Team Mentor for the 2017-2018 School Year.
 3. Approve Ms. Kristin Baker as a .25 Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher at the High School, effective October 16, 2017 through the remainder of the 2017-2018 School Year. Salary is \$7,625, pro-rated. (This position is a new position, due to an unforeseen high school schedule change.)

4. Approve Ms. Kristin Baker as a .75 Long-Term Substitute Math Academic Support Teacher at the High School, effective October 16, 2017 through the remainder of the 2017-2018 School Year. Salary is \$19,875, pro-rated. (Ms. Baker is replacing Nicole Goldstein.)
5. Approve Miss Hannah Knox to continue as a Long-Term Substitute ESL Teacher for the second semester of the 2017- 2017 School Year. Salary remains \$30,500, pro-rated. (This position will continue to be necessary due to the current ESL enrollment.)
6. Approve Miss Hannah Rosselle as a Long-Term Substitute ESL Teacher for the District, effective October 24, 2017 through the first semester of the 2017-2018 School Year. Salary is \$30,500, pro-rated. (Miss Rosselle is replacing Mrs. DeAnna Richey who was replacing Mrs. Katie Koleno.)
7. Approve Mrs. Stacie Ball as a Long-Term Substitute Physics Teacher at the High School, effective November 20, 2017 through approximately March 7, 2018. Salary is \$30,500, pro-rated. (Mrs. Ball is a substitute for Ms. Kristen Grenda.)
8. Approve a change in status for Ms. Sarah Morris, moving from a Building Substitute at Hampton High School, to a Long-Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at Hampton High School, effective October 1, 2017 through approximately March 6, 2018. Salary is \$30,500, pro-rated. (Ms. Morris is a substitute for Mrs. Amy Faith.)
9. Approve Mrs. Charity Shelburg as a Building Substitute at Hampton Middle School, effective November 8, 2017 through the remainder of the 2017-2018 School Year. Salary is \$20,500, pro-rated. (This is an annual position.)

Paraprofessionals/Secretaries:

10. Approve a change in status for Mrs. Nancy Schindler, moving from a Class-II Library Secretary at Hampton High School, to a Class-VI Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent at the District Administration Office, effective October 23, 2017. Salary is \$23.48 per hour for the 30-day probationary period and \$23.73 per hour thereafter. (Mrs. Schindler is replacing Mrs. Chris Grossman.)
11. Approve Samantha Ayres as a Class 1-D Paraprofessional, effective October 23, 2017. Salary is \$15.73 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$15.98 per hour thereafter. (Ms. Ayres is replacing Mary Kate Parry at Wyland Elementary School.)
12. Approve Mrs. Greta Wicks as a Class 1-B Paraprofessional (2 hours per day) at Poff Elementary School, effective October 24, 2017. Salary is \$14.46 per hour for the 60-day probationary period and \$14.71 per hour thereafter. (Mrs. Wicks is replacing Mrs. Jennifer Larson.)
13. Approve a change in status for Mrs. Sheila Schwartz, moving from a Class 1-B Paraprofessional (2 hours per day) at Central Elementary School, to a Class 1-B Paraprofessional (7 hours per day) at Central Elementary School, effective November 1, 2017. (Mrs. Schwartz is replacing Mrs. Ellen Bollinger, who moved to a Class 1-B position at the High School.) There is no change in the hourly rate.

Custodians:

14. Approve Mr. Joshua Lavery as Substitute Custodian, effective October 20, 2017.

Other:

15. Approve the following college students from Duquesne University for technology support for the first semester of the 2017-2018 School Year, effective October 20, 2017. Salary is \$12.00 per-hour (not to exceed 150 hours, utilizing Title IV Funds): Meredith Rae, Middle School; Kieran Vora, Elementary Schools

Supplementals:

9. Approve the following Building/Coach Supplemental positions for the 2017-2018 School Year, at a rate of \$130 per point, as listed on the agenda.

Finance Report

Action Items for Consideration

There were no action items for consideration at this time.

Old Business

Local Tax Revenue Update

Overall, the year-to-date 2017-18 local revenues are up 1.72% on a year-to-year basis. Real estate tax collections are nearly exactly “in line” with the budgeted increase and tax rate increase. The delinquent real estate collections are lagging the previous year collections by over 50%. However, the collections in 2016-17 exceeded the budget amount by \$468,000 or 42%. The hope is that the 2017-18 delinquent real estate taxes will be close to the budget amount of \$1,025,000.

Capital Projects Financial Update

Mr. Kline reviewed an updated Capital Projects Fund spreadsheet as of October 31, 2017. There were three projects completed in the last 4 months:

- Admin Center Captured Vestibule – final cost - \$8,351 – (\$149 under budget)
- Wyland Roof (Final Phase) – final cost - \$284,214 – (\$75,786 under budget)
- High School Captured Vestibule – final cost - \$17,000 – (\$13,000 under budget)

Additionally, he noted that the 2017-18 “5-year” plan projects are being funded by the Capital Projects fund as they were not included in the 2017-18 General Fund Budget.

As of October 31st the fund has \$991,398 available with many future projects to be funded.

New Business

2018-2019 Budget Calendar

Mr. Kline presented the 2018-19 budget calendar. He highlighted the following key dates:

January 8, 2018 - The board will receive the first estimated budget / projection document

January 15, 2018 – The board will consider a Not to Exceed Resolution or a preliminary budget

April 23, 2018 – Special meeting to review preliminary budget (prior to May vote)

May 7, 2018 – Proposed Final Budget will be considered for approval

June 11, 2018 – Final Budget will be considered for approval

The final budget calendar will be posted to the District website here once available.

Mr. Shages asked the administration to consider a zero tax increase budget for 2018-2019 since the Board has voted to raise taxes in small increments over the last couple of years.

Facilities Report

There was no report this evening.

Policy/Legislative Affairs Report

Informational

Mr. Stein provided a brief overview of the PSBA conference he recently attended. Hampton School District Administration presented at the conference and the presentation was extremely well received. The presentation centered around an exercise in which the audience used collaboration, conversation, and negotiation skills as well as digital devices in order to complete a task. Mr. Stein said it was impactful because it was different from what everyone expected. Dr. Loughead said the audience responded well and he was extremely pleased with the presentation.

The Board also briefly discussed PSBA Regional Directors, voting for PSERs Board, and Comcast internet availability for families who are looking for discounted internet rates.

Technology Report

There was no report this evening.

Transportation Report

There was no report this evening.

Mr. Shages mentioned that Z Trip is being used by nine other school districts at reportedly a substantial lower cost than traditional transportation options. He inquired if this is something Hampton can consider. Mr. Kline said he will look into it.

A.W. Beattie Report

- The A.W. Beattie Holiday Craft Vendor Show will be held on Saturday, November 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- The A.W. Beattie students are again providing a Thanksgiving dinner catered option which can include the full meal or sides only. Interested persons can access A.W. Beattie's website here for more options on how to order.

Closing Public Comment Period

The Board provides a second opportunity for members of the public to address the Board about issues appearing on the agenda, as well as issues affecting the District. In accordance with Policy No. 903, individuals wishing to address the Board will be asked to state their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

- There was no additional comment.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Mrs. Hennessey announced there would be an executive session following adjournment to discuss legal and personnel issues. The next regularly-scheduled meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 13 in the Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library, HMS.